

Erythronium americanum

Yellow Trout Lily



Also called dogtooth violet (although it's not a violet at all). Beautiful green-and-brown mottled leaves, close to the ground. Nodding, yellow lily-like flowers. May not flower for several years in cultivation, but the leaves are so lovely, it hardly matters. This plant, like spring beauty (*Claytonia virginica*) is what's called a "spring ephemeral," which means that it dies back to the ground in the heat of mid-summer and stays dormant until the following spring. Will spread over time, creating a lovely mottled springtime carpet.

Suggested companions: Jack-in-the-pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*), lady fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*), under oaks and maples.

Photo Credit: Wisconsin State Herbarium,
by Kitty Kohout

Plant Type: Wildflower

Size: 6-8" H
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Water Tolerant: No

Habitat:

Forested Upland
Woodland Margin

Soil: Rich Moist
Average Garden Soil

Exposure: filtered
shade

Flower Color:
Yellow

Bloom Time:
April
May

Other Attributes:

Plant in:

Groundcover: Yes